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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 09464 102050Z

65
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
---------- 048140
O 102004Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 95
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 9464

EXDIS

EO 11652 XGDS
TAGS: PFOR, XA XB XM XF EG VE
SUBJ: ARAB AND SOVIET CRITICISM OF PRESIDENT SADAT IN
WAKE OF EGYPT-ISRAEL AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 214848

1. MY EGYPTIAN COLLEAGUE THOUGHT IT AN EXCELLENT IDEA THAT I MAKE THE CONTEMPLATED DEMARCHE IN ADVANCE OF HIS OWN REPRESENTATIONS. I THEREFORE REVIEWED THE POINTS IN REFTEL WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER AT OUR MEETING THIS MORNING.

2. HIS REACTION WAS SYMPATHETIC. HE WAS WARM IN HIS ADMIRATION FOR PRESIDENT SADAT AS AN "EXTRAORDINARY LEADER," AND FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE ISSUE OF "PALESTINE" BUT CONFESSED TO HAVING VERY LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF ITS COMPLEXITIES. HE DID AGREE WITH ME THAT PEACE AND NOT WAR OFFERS THE BEST HOPE FOR THE PALESTINIANS, AS WELL AS FOR EVERYONE ELSE.

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3. ESCOVAR SALOM WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY THE POINT THAT

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THE AGREEMENT REPRESENTS THE FIRST ACT OF SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE ARABS AND ISRAEL ACHIEVED IN CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN AS A RESULT OF HOSTILITIES. HE JOTTED DOWN THE PHRASE "NEGOTIATIONS NOT WAR" FOR WHAT HE INDICATED WOULD BE USED AT HIS LUNCHEON WITH THE PRESIDENT TODAY.

4. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THE GOV WILL SUPPORT THE AGEEMENT AND SADAT'S POSITION. THAT SUPPORT WILL PROBABLY NOT, HOWEVER, MANIFEST ITSELF IN ANY VERY PUBLIC OR VIGOROUS FASHION. THE VENEZUELANS INVARIABLY TRY TO STAY IN THE BACKGROUND ON THE MORE HEATED INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ISSUES, PARTICULARLY WHEN THEY HAVE OPEC IMPLICATIONS.

5. AFTER THE MINISTER HAS TALKED TO THE PRESIDENT, AND AFTER THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR HAS HAD HIS MEETING, I WILL CHECK WITH ESCOVAR AGAIN ON THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EXPRESSION OF PUBLIC GOV SUPPORT FOR SADAT.
SHLAUDEMAN

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